

ARGUMENTS/REMARKS

Reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the present amendment is respectfully requested. Claims 1-17 are pending. Claims 1, 7, 8, and 12 are amended and claim 17 is added.

The specification is amended to correct the informality of the misspelling of generator and thus overcome the objection. The specification is also amended to correct the reference number for the membrane holder on page 5, line 22.

Claims 7 and 8 are amended to correct the informalities listed in item 2 of the office action. Thus, the objection to claims 7 and 8 should be withdrawn.

Applicant appreciates the allowance of claim 12 if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Accordingly, claim 12 is rewritten to include all of the limitations of the base claim and intervening claims. Claim 12 is also amended for better form. Therefore, claim 12 is allowable.

Claim 1 is amended to recite that the holding body, in an activated state of said gas generator, is fastened both to said charge housing and, additionally, to a part of said gas generator which is not destroyed in the activated state of said gas generator to act against displacement of said holding body along said longitudinal axis away from said charge housing. Amended claim 1 patentably defines over Mizuno et al. Mizuno et al. neither discloses or suggests a holding

body, in an activated state of the gas generator, is fastened both to said charge housing and, additionally, to a part of said gas generator which is not destroyed in the activated state of said gas generator to act against displacement of said holding body along said longitudinal axis away from said charge housing.

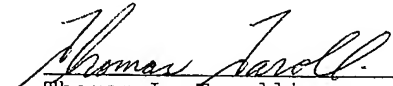
By contrast, Mizuno et al. discloses a barrel 21 which is fastened to a housing 17 containing an initiator 11. In the activated state of the gas generator as illustrated in Fig. 3, the barrel 21 is only fastened to the housing 17. The barrel is not fastened to any other part of the gas generator. Therefore claim 1 is allowable. Claims 2-11 and 13-16 depend either directly or indirectly from claim 1 and are therefore allowable as depending from an allowable claim and for the specific features recited therein.

New claim 17, which depends from claim 1, should be allowed for the same reasons as claim 1 and also for the additional feature that the separate holding body retains the charge housing in a longitudinal direction of the charge housing to avoid movement of the charge housing in the longitudinal direction of the charge housing. Mizuno does not disclose or suggest this feature claimed in claim 17. Therefore, claim 17 is allowable.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the above-identified application is in condition for allowance, and allowance of the above-identified application is respectfully requested.

Please charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment in
the fees for this amendment to our Deposit Account
No. 20-0090.

Respectfully submitted,


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